

**REMARKS**

The Assignee would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to Jeff Oster during his recent visit to Washington D.C..

It is our understanding that concern was expressed about the use of the word 'relationship' in claim 43 during the interview. The Assignee has provided an excerpt from a network definition that shows the use of the word relationship in claim 43 is consistent with a formal definition of a network.

More formally, a network contains a set of objects (in mathematical terms, nodes) and a mapping or description of relations between the objects or nodes. The simplest network contains two objects, 1 and 2, and one relationship that links them. Nodes 1 and 2, for example, might be people, and the relationship that links them might be "are standing in the same room."

This definition of a network is well known to those of average skill in the arts of artificial intelligence (class 706), business methods (class 705) and data processing (class 707) that are contained in the above referenced application and other cross referenced applications.

**Reservation of rights**

The Assignee hereby explicitly reserves the right to present the previously modified and/or canceled claims for re-examination in their original format. The cancellation or modification of pending claims to put the instant application in a final form for allowance and issue is not to be construed as a surrender of subject matters covered by the original claims before their cancellation or modification.

**Conclusion**

The pending claims are of a form and scope for allowance. Prompt notification thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



B.J. Bennett, President Asset Trust, Inc.  
Date: January 31, 2006

Serial No. 09/761,670

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Examiner: Siegfried Chencinski  
Art Unit: 3628